

2006-0387

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PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

2007 APR 18 P 12:18

FILED

John & Rose Marie H. Duey
575A Iao Valley Road
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793
808-242-8565

April 17, 2007

Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
465 South King Street #103
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Maui Electric Company's 2007 Rate Request

Aloha Mr. Chairman, and members of the Commission

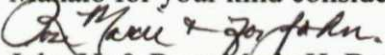
We are John V. and Rose Marie H. Duey and we are submitting testimony on behalf of Maui Electric Company's 2007 rate request. We will be on vacation on April 25th.

As a keiki o ka aina, and kamaaina here on Maui, we have first hand knowledge of the many changes our island has gone through over the past years, changes that have had major impacts and demands on our resources, and infrastructure.

We support Maui Electric Company's 2007 rate request because: 1) Maui Electric's last request for rate increase was filed nearly a decade ago in 1998. 2) The cost of doing business over nine years has inflated, especially in the cost of fuel, employee wages, and benefits. 3) Maui's housing development has produced many more residential homes needing electricity and transmission costs. 4) With population growth, comes new businesses, and visitors accommodations requiring use of electricity and transmission costs (poles, equipment, manpower, etc.), and 5) the requested 5.3% increase is largely to help pay for the addition of Maalaea Generating Station's Units 18 (M18) AND 19 (M19).

The fact that MECO's last request was in 1998, and they need the 5.3% increase to help pay for the two Generating Stations Units 18 & 19, which were done in 2000, and completed in October to be able to provide reliable electricity is reason enough for us.

Mahalo for your kind consideration,


John V. & Rose Marie H. Duey



Robert E Spaulding
<spauldr@juno.com>
04/30/2007 07:24 AM

To Hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Energy, Docket # 2006-0387

To Whom it may concern,

1. I ask you to support the addition of more wind turbines on Kealahou Ridge. We need to have as much non fossil fuel power as possible on Maui.

2. Please also provide a low level "life line" rate category for low income customers who consume low amounts of power or who qualify due to medical necessity.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Bob & Barbara Spaulding
3300 Wailea Alanui #49A, Wailea Maui, HI 96753



Michael Dahlberg
<tanlyamain@hawaii.rr.com>
04/30/2007 09:48 AM

To hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc

Subject Docket # 2006-0387 Comments

Gentlemen:

I support the Maui Electric Company (MECO) proposal to establish tiered rates that increase the rates for consumers using more electricity. The threshold of 350 KWH consumed in a billing period proposed by MECO is appropriate and minimal charges should apply to that amount of energy consumed. Also, I support installation of additional wind power on Maui by Kaheawa Wind Power on Kealahou Ridge above Ma'alaea.

Michael Dahlberg
250 Hau'oli Rd, #416
Ma'alaea Village
Wailuku, HI 96793-5912



"Richard Miller"
<millerr018@hawaii.rr.com>
04/28/2007 10:46 PM

2006-0387

To <Hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: MECO Proposed Rate Increase

----- Original Message -----

From: Richard Miller

To: PUC

Sent: Saturday, April 28, 2007 9:41 PM

Subject: MECO Proposed Rate Increase

As a Maui resident since 1990 I ask the Public Utilities Commission not to grant another rate increase to MECO until we get some tax relief from The State of Hawaii, The County of Maui and The United States Treasury Dept. You are our safety net against this MECO monopoly. They have enough money to try and force us to install new Turtle 5- 7 cps transmitters instead of leaving us alone with our old mechanical power meters. Please make them wait till Bush win's this Iraq war then they can get a rate increase.

Mahalo,

Richard Miller

Maui, HI

e mail: MILLERR018@hawaii.rr.com

6.

2006-0387

Hawaii_PUC/DBF/StateHiU
S

02/26/2007 05:39 AM

To Carl P Caliboso/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, John E
Cole/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Brooke K
Kane/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Stacey K
Djou/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Lisa Y
Kikuta/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Steven J
Iha/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Brian K
Chang/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Karen H
Higashi/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Bryan G
Kageyama/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS

cc

bcc

Subject Fw: MECO rate increase

----- Forwarded by Hawaii_PUC/DBF/StateHiUS on 02/26/2007 05:39 AM -----



garyforrest@earthlink.net

02/25/2007 08:25 AM

Please respond to
garyforrest@earthlink.net

To PUC <hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov>

cc

Subject MECO rate increase

Since moving here 4 years ago we have seen our electric bill double - mostly due to the fuel surcharges. Before granting MECO a rate increase I suggest you audit their fuel charges and determine if an automatic escalator serves the best public interest - it certainly provides MECO with no incentive to control costs. Second I suggest you ask MECO to justify investing in palm oil fuels that must be imported. Clearly they do not understand the concept of renewable energy. We burn a lot of cane as waste on Maui - why import any oils when we waste a current fuel source ?

Protect us, the public, by making MECO compete and offer real ways to reduce costs, rather than wasting resources and our money.

Gary Forrest
Haiku, Maui, HI



century21maul@aol.com
04/07/2007 12:10 PM

To hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject MECO rate increase

Dear PUC,

I'm a small user, 300KW Per month. With the customer charge, fuel charge and electric use charge I am paying 38 cents per KW. This is an extremely high rate, higher than anywhere I can find.

I'm asking that you DO NOT grant MECO the 5.3 percent increase they are asking for.

They can reduce costs by asking you to eliminate having a security guard in their lobby which was required after 9-11-2001. The security guard serves no purpose and is an illusion as far as making anything safer.

They can reduce costs by eliminating give-a-way programs for solar and air conditioning.

They can reduce costs by using their trucks and other equipment longer as was the practice before they could use the purchase of anything they wanted to ask for a rate increase.

They can reduce costs by not getting involved with unproven and costly technologys. This amounts for a fishing expedition for energy at higher costs when proven incinerators to burn garbage, which we have plenty of, are being ignored. Mecos needs to produce electricity from the most economical energy sources while they let science and other private concerns experiment.

The bottum line is that their energy prices are the highest in the nation and instead of asking for more money they should be looking at more cost effective electric companys for guidance.

Unless you look at this from a different prospective than what is presented to you I fear you will simply be sold on their arguments.

Even at the 30 cents a KW they quote is 33 percent higher than comparable rural companies that have fewer customers and more miles of line. Check out Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association in rural Upper Michigan. This is one of the most remote Electric companys, with some of the worst weather, fewer customers and larger land area in the country and their rates, including all charges are under 20 cents per KW. Small business customers on Maui now pay up to 38 cents per KW.

Please look at other options, other than the easiest, of continuing to charge more.

Sincerely,
Roger Welch

Kahului, HI

AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at **AOL.com**

2006-0387

Frank C. Freda

471 Liholiho Street
Apt. 19
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

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April 4, 2007

Public Utility Commission
Maui District Office – Wailuku
54 South High Street
Room 218
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

FILED
2007 APR 12 P 12:37
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

Dear Commission Member,

As a senior citizen who constantly wages a unique silent war on the increased, continued costs of living associated with Maui, my 3 month MECO bill averages \$41-47 monthly and I work 40 hours to meet all of my obligations. So, when the typical household bill noted in your request is \$7.78 towards \$179.47 or \$15 monthly, it is outrageous!

MECO explanation places the cost to the consumer so let us ask the basic questions.

- What was the profit last 3 years?
- Was prudent reinvestment made for the company?
- How efficient/ effective is the company?
- Were any internal audits conducted to determine where waste is and correction made?

We need to have these answers versus new bells and whistles!

Sincerely yours,



Frank Freda
Chief Executive Officer

FF: am